

Agricultural Education

Information Access Policy
Clemson University Libraries

Agricultural Education Librarian [Lois Sill](#)
Policy written February 2012

“Agricultural Education provides a broad preparation in agricultural sciences and professional education, including communications and human relations skills. Clemson University offers a B.S. and a M.Ag.Ed. in Agricultural Education. Graduates of the Agricultural Education program are expected to have the competencies to perceive needs of the communities in which they live and work and to take an active part in meeting those needs. As representatives of the College of Agriculture, Forestry, and Life Sciences, the College of Education, and Clemson University, graduates are to demonstrate the skills expected of all graduates of a leading land grant university.” [Agricultural Education Webpage](#)

[Undergraduate Studies Emphasis Areas and Curriculum](#) as of February 2012.

[Graduate Studies Curriculum and AgEd Graduate Handbook](#) as of February 2012.

I. Purpose:

To support information, teaching, and research needs through the bachelor's and master's level in Agricultural Education and to support the research interests of the faculty.

Primary Users:

1. Agricultural Education majors
2. Agricultural Education faculty and staff

Secondary Users:

1. students taking Agricultural Education courses as electives
2. students or faculty involved in other courses requiring information about Agricultural Education
3. students, faculty, staff, or community members seeking information about Agricultural Education

II. Collection Management and Parameters

A. Languages

English is the predominant language. If materials in other languages are collected they must generally contain information not readily available in English.

B. Geographic Areas

Much of the material in Agricultural Educations describes subjects which are independent of geography. Some degree of comprehensive coverage is attempted in local (North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia) and issues specific to the Southeastern United States.

C. Chronological Boundaries

Most books considered for purchase are current; materials published prior to the most recent five years are purchased very selectively.

D. Format of Materials Collected

Monographic material purchased will primarily be English language print sources and electronic format, if available. Journals, handbooks, manuals, and encyclopedias will be in electronic format, if available. Materials in languages other than English will be collected only upon specific request. Scholarly, technical and professional treatments are emphasized. DVDs will be purchased as requested by faculty.

E. The following materials will be excluded unless there is an extraordinary need and/or a specific request.

1. Workbooks
2. Computer software
3. Rare materials
4. Textbooks

F. Weeding Guidelines

Monographic material, with an imprint of 1997 or earlier, which has not circulated for the last ten years, will be reviewed for weeding. Statistical reports are available for review of these titles. If a book has not circulated and is historically important, Special Collections will be asked to house it. If Special Collections does not take the item, storage will be considered if the item is rare or unique to Clemson.

G. Library of Congress Subject Headings

Agricultural Education

S 530-559 Agricultural Education

- S 531-539 Schools, Study and Teaching
- S 539.5-542 Research, Experimentation
- S 544-545 Agricultural Extension Work
- S 548-548.6 Historic Farms
- S 550-559 Expositions, Fairs, etc.

Narrower LC Subject Terms:

- 4-H clubs
- Agricultural extension work
- Agricultural students
- Agriculture Study and teaching
- Farmers' institutes
- Forestry schools and education
- Missions Agricultural work
- School farms

H. Important Journals

- Journal of Agricultural Education
- Journal of Extension
- Journal of International Agricultural and Extension Education
- Journal of Agricultural Education and Extension
- Journal of Leadership Education
- Journal of Applied Communication
- Journal of Career & Technical Education
- Career & Technical Education Research
- North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture Journal

III. Selection Tools and Review Sources

- A. List of courses offered each semester.
- B. Major Agricultural Education journals
- C. Publishers websites and catalogs
- D. Agricultural Educations society websites and catalogs
- E. GOBI service from YBP if funds are available

- F. The students and faculty are most helpful in suggesting resources to purchase. While working with undergraduates at the reference desk or through class contacts, one learns what topics are of interest. Also, by reading current journals and professional magazines in Agricultural Educations, the topics of current interest are apparent. Co-workers are also extremely helpful in suggesting areas that may need more coverage. Looking at the ILLs requested also helps in the selection process.
- G. If faculty members fail to recommend material, the librarian will encourage them to take a more active part in selection. If this encouragement fails, the librarian will make the selections.
- H. The librarian is also responsible for the selection of general materials not specifically related to the curriculum and for maintaining a balance between the various subject areas and between standard and current works.

IV. Evaluation Tools

- A. "Use studies" involving circulation and browsing data from our online catalog, databases, and journal vendors will show the areas of highest use.
- B. *Journal Citation Reports* purport to pinpoint the most influential journals in any science discipline in several quantitative methods.

V. Assessment and Planning

A. Qualitative Measures

1. The information access policy for this department will be reviewed every five years.
2. Appropriate bibliographies will be checked against our holdings.
3. Benchmarking projects, to be determined.

B. Quantitative Measures

1. Interlibrary Loan Activities will be monitored to see what subject areas are lacking and what type materials are being requested most.
2. Circulation Statistics, both for print and electronic resources, will be reviewed to see which areas of the collection are most heavily used.
3. Keeping track of the new research grants undertaken and the new courses taught in the Agricultural Educations Department can also help determine what materials to purchase and helps in the planning.